Observations of Ambassador of EEC for South Asia on India's texports

178. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the observations made by the Ambassador of EEC for South Asia at Bangalore that low quality of Indian products, lack of competitive products, failures in meeting delivery schedules and infrastructural bottlenecks like transport and power cuts, have resulted in sluggish exports from India to Europe over the last few years; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Government has noticed, in a section of the press, this report ascribed to the Acting Chief of the EEC Delegation for South Asia. Some of these aspects may sometimes be experienced in some cases. Acceptability of Indian Exports products in general in the European Community markets is duly reflected in the increase of over 46 per cent in Indian exports to West Europe during 1986-87 and again, over 41 per cent increase maintained in the period April—December 1987 over the exports during the corresponding period in previous years.

Activities of terrorists in Punjab

179. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the activities of terrorists in Punjab have been on increase;

(b) whether the Administration has taken any concrete steps to deal with the activities of the terrorists; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the terrorists have been using sophisticated weapons procured from foreign markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hide-outs of terrorists and their harbourers/associates are being raided. Patrolling has been intensified. Steps are under way to halt the movement of terrorists and supply of arms from across the border.

(c) Reports of terrorists using sophisticated weapons procured from foreign markets have been received.

Setting up of a Prawn Hatchery in Orissa

180. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a prawn hatchery in Orissa;

(b) if so, by when such hatchery is going to be set up; and

(c) whether the project would be completed by the end of 1988-89; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to expedite the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (d) The Marine Products Export Development Authority is establishing a prawn hatchery at Gopalpur-on-sea in Orissa. The Civil works of the project are nearing completion and the commercial production will commence by the beginning of 1989.

Excise relief on diesel oil sold to deep-sea fishing industry

181. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: